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and are expressed with judicial poise and moderation. The doctrines of the nationalistic school are also set forth clearly, sometimes in quotations from Judge Story, Daniel Webster and others. There is a good summary of the discussion between Calhoun and Webster. The treatment of secession is of course from the point of view of the Southerner, but a patriotic and fair-minded one. And the discussion ends with a frank admission that a result of the Civil War has been to overthrow the theory of the constitutional right of the state peaceably to secede from the Union, (see p. 189) and with it the doctrine of nullification. The reviewer agrees heartily with Professor Minor's admonition, "Let him (the reader) beware of the extension of federal powers *by construction*, judicial, legislative, or executive, merely because of the argument from convenience or from the inefficiency of the state governments or of state regulation." It certainly is to be preferred that changes in our governmental institutions be made by constitutional amendment when necessary, rather than by artificial construction by the courts. But in the opinion of the reviewer this is rather because of the harm done to the law and courts and the injury to their prestige than to any danger to our state institutions really worthy of preservation. No one supposes that the right of local government in the historical meaning of the term is endangered because of present nationalistic tendencies in regard to matters of national importance. One has the highest respect for the loyalty and devotion of Virginians to their state. It all proceeds from qualities of the highest kind, but if, as Professor Minor concedes in his book, we have become a nation, then we must admit that national policies must be determined with reference to national interests, even though at times specific state interests suffer. Professor Minor's discussion of this subject is interesting, fair, and clear, as one would expect from the eminent son of a distinguished law teacher and legal scholar.

H. M. B.

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THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE EXECUTIVE. By Grover Cleveland. Princeton: Princeton University Press. London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1913. pp. v, 82.

THE VENEZUELAN BOUNDARY CONTROVERSY. By Grover Cleveland. Princeton: Princeton University Press. London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1913. pp. v, 122.

THE GOVERNMENT IN THE CHICAGO STRIKE OF 1894. By Grover Cleveland. Princeton: Princeton University Press. London: Humphrey Milford, Oxford University Press, 1913. pp. v, 49.

These are interesting little books by former president Cleveland which would have been noticed here long ago except for the fault of the reviewer. They are accounts in simple unaffected style of three important and exceedingly significant episodes which mark the administration of their author as president of the United States. Grover Cleveland's independence as president was of course one of his striking characteristics. This grew in part, no doubt, out of temperament and character but also it grew, as

the first of the books above noticed clearly shows, from well considered views of the constitutional and political relationships which the president sustains toward others in our form of government. The principal episode discussed in this book is the long controversy which President Cleveland had with the Senate regarding Civil Service Reform. A clear and on the whole extremely fair account of this is set out. No new facts are brought to light but the president's personal views, somewhat softened perhaps by the lapse of time, appear here for the first time. That the president was not without a quiet sense of humor will appear from the following quotation: "The temper and disposition of the Senate may be correctly judged, I think, from the remarks by the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary and the acknowledged leader of the majority. On a formal motion that the message be printed and lie upon the table, he moved as an amendment that it be referred to the committee of which he was chairman, and said:

'I merely wish to remark, in moving to refer this document to the Committee on the Judiciary, that it very vividly brought to my mind the communications of King Charles I to the Parliament, telling them what, in conducting their affairs, they ought to do and ought not to do; and I think I am safe in saying that it is the first time in the history of the republican United States that any President of the United States had undertaken to interfere with the deliberations of either House of Congress on questions pending before them, otherwise than by messages on the state of the Union which the Constitution commands him to make from time to time.'

King Charles I fared badly at the hands of the Parliament; but it was most reassuring to know that, after all said and done, the Senate of the United States was not a bloodthirsty body, and that the chairman of its Committee on the Judiciary was one of the most courteous and amiable of men—at least when outside of the Senate."

The president's complete triumph is stated without elation in the account of the repeal in the session of '86-'87 of the offending bill of 1869 which was the basis of most of the trouble.

The account of the Chicago Strike is clear and illuminating and makes interesting reading for lawyers in connection with the case *in re Debs*, 158 U. S. 564.

Especially at times like the present the Venezuelan boundary controversy may seem the most interesting of the three episodes which President Cleveland has described in these books. A careful reading of the book has not brought to the mind of the reviewer any facts here disclosed for the first time, but it may fairly be said that the perspective given to the negotiations culminating finally in the agreement by Great Britain to arbitrate her boundary dispute with Venezuela gives a new and sounder view of the policy, motives and attitude of the president in the firm course which he pursued throughout the matter. Most of us remember how the country was shocked upon its sudden realization of the extreme firmness with which the president and his secretary of state, Mr. Olney, in the

dispatch of July 20, 1895, basing our right to intervene upon the Monroe Doctrine, called upon Great Britain to arbitrate this dispute. The long course of futile interrupted negotiations narrated in the direct and simple style which was so characteristic of Mr. Cleveland's later literary expression is quite convincing that his course in this matter was not dictated by obstinacy, by a desire to twist the British lion's tail, or by any spirit of bravado. Unquestionably the president felt strongly that the Monroe Doctrine was important if not absolutely necessary to the preservation of "our enjoyment of free institutions" (see p. 96) and he felt that that doctrine could not retain its vitality if we permitted Great Britain to forcibly intervene in South America. The account is of further value as showing that despite many irritating incidents in the earlier course of the negotiations between our government and the British in this respect, in the last analysis and when finally induced to act Great Britain then, as on many other occasions in recent years, manifested a spirit of strong friendship for the United States.

The books are well printed; each has a frontispiece, one being a portrait of President Cleveland taken in 1903 and the other two views from different angles of the Cleveland Memorial tower on the Graduate College at Princeton. The style, as has been indicated, is wholly lacking in the turgidity and ponderousness of President Cleveland's earlier writing. No one can read these three little books without increased satisfaction in the possession of American citizenship and without a higher regard for the great president who wrote them.

H. M. B.